(b) whether it is a fact that a demand has been made for such a review from wide sections of opinion; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) (a) to (c) : Some representations have been received from a few officers of 1962 batch of IAS as also from some other sources on their behalf for review of their cases for empanelment to hold Secretary level posts at the Centre. The extant policy provides for a review every two years.

Appointment of Special Secretaries to Government of India

4361. SHRI MATANG SING : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some officers of 1962 I.A.S. batch have been posted as Special Secretaries to Government of India without any Ministry experience earlier;

(b) the names of such officers; and

(c) the steps being taken to remove such officers from critical posts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Promotion of Stenographers

4362. SHRI MD. SALIM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Stenographers (Grade "D") do not get a promotion for 17 to 19 years and the officers (IAS) under whom they are working get promotion in every 4 to 5 years;

(b) what are the measures taken by Government so far, if any to alleviate this stagnation, and the percentage of people benefited by it year-wise;

(c) what are the reasons for this inordinate delay in their promotion;

(d) whether it is a fact that a person who joints as LDC later opts to become a Stenographer (Grade "D") remains stagnant for too long where-as an LDC who prefer to remain as LDC gets promotion easily;

(e) whether LDC is informed about the stagnating promotional aspect before he opts to become Stenographer (Grade "D") from LDC; and

(f) whether Government would consider the option of allowing the Stenographer (Grade "D") to go back to clerical cadre if they have come from that cadre, if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) At present Stenographers Gr. 'D' of the Central Secretariat Stenographers Service (CSSS) take about 16 to 18 years for their promotion on the basis of seniority. IAS and CSSS are not comparable services.

(b) The measures taken so far include :

(i) Increasing the Seniority quota in Grade C of CSSS from 25% to 60% for Select List 1989, and to 50% for Select List 1991; and

(ii) Diversion of unfilled direct recruitment vacancies in Grade C to seniority quota from Select List 1990 onwards.

Stenographers Grade 'D' of the CSSS being a decentralised grade, information regarding the percentage of Steno Grade 'D' benefitted from these measures is not centrally monitored/ available.

(c) The main reason is recruitment of large numbers to Grade 'D' of CSSS during certain years.

(d) An LDC can become Stenographer Gr. 'D' by competing successfully in the prescribed examinations. Promotional prospects for Stenographers Gr. 'D' are different from those of LDCs who belong to a different grade of another service.

(e) The prevailing promotion prospects of Stenographers Grade 'D' are expected to be within the knowledge of the concerned LDCs.

(f) Instructions already exist regarding maintenance of liens in the parent cadre in such cases.

4363. *[Transferred to 27th August, 1993.]*

Mechanism for investigation of malpractices of Highly Placed Persons in Authority

4364. SHRI G. G. SWELL:
SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any mechanism, either legal or constitutional available to common man to get charges of corruption and malpractices investigated against highly placed persons in authority; if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether investigations have been conducted against Central Ministers and highly placed bureaucrats under the Commission of Inquiry Act, 1952 and if so, what was the outcome of these investigations;

(c) whether it is a fact that attempts to enact Lok Pal Bills failed four times in the past, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government are thinking/considering or planning to introduce a bill which may provide mechanism to any citizen to get malpractices of highly placed persons investigated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir. Corruption charges can be investigated by the police under the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code either on the basis of complaint or information derived by the Police. The Court can be also take cognizance of the charges of corruption on the basis of a complaint filed by a private person. There are provisions of law to govern the prosecution in such cases.

(b) Yes, Sir. However, it would not be possible to give details as under the Commission of Inquiry Act, 1952, a number of Commissions of Inquiry have been appointed by the appropriate Governments and the information is not Centrally monitored.

(c) Five attempts have so far been made by the Government in 1968, 1971, 1977, 1985 and 1989 to enact the Lok Pal Bill. Every time the Bill lapsed due to disolution of the Lok Sabha.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply as in (a) above.

Abortion Leave for women employees

4365. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that abortion leave has been permitted for 42 days to women employees of Government;

(b) whether grant of such leave is subject to some limit of number of children of women employees;

(c) whether grant of such leave is also subject to availing of this facility after some time of duration;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether modern techniques do not permit abortion leave for 42 days rather these permit abortion leave for 7 days;

(f) whether Government propose to modify the existing instruction in view of (e) above; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (d) As per Rule 43 (3) of the CCS (Leave) Rules, maternity leave not exceeding six weeks is admissible to female Government servants (irrespective of number of surviving children) in case of mis-carriage including abortion on production of medical certificate. No duration has been prescribed between two spells of such leave.

(e) to (g) Request for maternity leave on abortion mis-carriage has to be supported by medical certificate. The question of modification of the rules in the light of modern techniques now available is receiving our attantion.

Reservation for handicapped persons in Promotion

4366. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: